

OCT 25 2005

SIEMENS CORP. IPD-W

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 2003P12087US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Muge Bakircioglu, et al.  
Appln. No.: 10/737,204  
Filing Date: December 15, 2005  
Title: **AUTOMATIC OPTIMIZATION  
FOR ULTRASOUND MEDICAL  
IMAGING**  
Examiner: Francis J. Jaworski  
Art Unit: 3737

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By: Sara E. Armstrong  
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97 (b),  
(Within three months of either ☐ the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d) or ☐ the date of national stage entry of international application; or ☒ before mailing date of first office action on the merits; or ☐ before mailing date of a first office action after filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114).
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97 (c) together with either a:  
☐ Certification under 37 CFR 1.97 (e), OR  
☐ the \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (p) authorized to be charged to Deposit Account 19-2179. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 19-2179 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. (After the 37 CFR 1.97 (b) time period, but before mailing date of any of ☐ a final action under 37 CFR 1.113, or ☐ a notice of allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or ☐ an action that otherwise closes prosecution).
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97 (d) together with a:  
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☐ the \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (p) authorized to be charged to Deposit Account 19-2179. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 19-2179 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. (After the 37 CFR 1.97 (c) time period, but ☐ on or ☐ before payment of the issue fee).
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97 (i)  
(Filed after time period of 37 CFR 1.97 (d) or not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 - No fee or certification required; references to be placed in file but not considered).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449 - Information Disclosure Citation which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56:

- ☐ together with hard copies of all references (e.g. if this application was filed before June 30, 2003); or  
☐ with hard copies, if any, of only non-U.S. patents or non-U.S. published patent applications or U.S. pending unpublished patent applications (or portion thereof) or publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware and which should be made of record in the above-identified application; or  
☐ without hard copies of publications or other information which have been submitted previously in the parent application (application no. \_\_\_\_\_) to which the above-identified application claims priority under 35 USC 120 and which should be made of record in the above-identified application.

**37 CFR 1.97(e) Certifications:**

☐ The undersigned hereby certifies under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. **OR**

☐ The undersigned certifies under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2) that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individual(s) designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c) most knowledgeable about the content that is given on ☐ the attached separate sheet or ☐ incorporated in the applicant's specification or ☐ by the enclosed English-language translation or portion thereof within the possession, custody, or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c).

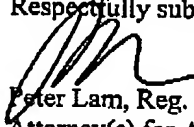
☒ Applicant does not believe any fee is due. However, at any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 19-2179 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner or as an admission that the information cited is or is considered to be material to patentability.

PLEASE MAIL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Siemens Corporation  
Customer No. 28524  
Attn: Elsa Keller, Legal Administrator  
170 Wood Avenue South  
Iselin, NJ 08830

Respectfully submitted,

  
Peter Lam, Reg. No. 44,855  
Attorney(s) for Applicant(s)  
Telephone: 650-943-7350  
Date: 10/25/05

OCT 25 2005

Substitute for Form 1449/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		<b>Application Number</b>	10/737,204
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		<b>Filing Date</b>	December 15, 2003
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Müge Bakircioglu
(use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	3737
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	Francis Jaworski
<b>Sheet</b>	1	of	1
		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	2003P12087US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	A	6,579,238		Simopoulos, et al.	06/17/2003	
	B	6,679,844		Loftman, et al.	01/20/2004	
	C	6,733,454		Bakircioglu, et al.	05/11/2004	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.